view of the general ban on creation/ filling up of posts. This position holds good for Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh as well as other States/ Union Territories.

Accident of Rock Fort Express due to bomb explosion

*32. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI J.P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 22 passengers were killed and 64 injured when eight bogies of the Madras-Tiruchirapalli Rock Fort Express fell into the Maruthaiyaru river between Ariyalur and Sillakkudi, following a time bomb explosion on the Marudayar railway bridge in March 1987;

(b) if so, whether any arrests have been made in connection therewith; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to avoid such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) In this accident 26 persons lost their lives and 55 sustained serious injuries.

(b) According to information received from Tamil Nadu Government, one person has been arrested.

(c) Track patrolling and guarding of vulnerable bridges on certain sections is being done. However, law and order is a State subject.

Training of Villagers in Avurvedic and Unani System of Medicines in the Tribal Areas

*33. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up institutions which can introduce the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicines in tribal areas and tarin villagers in Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine to enable them to produce medicines by using herbal plants and vegetation locally available to provide cheap treatment to ppor tribals; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what steps are being taken by Government to provide medical assistance to poor tribals and villagers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The tribal areas are rich in herbs and have an ancient folk tradition to use these herbs to treat many diverse ailments. We are concerned and committed to preserve this tradition and exploit this folk knowledge for the benefit of all. To this end, the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha is engaged in collecting folk remedies of animal and plant origin practiced in some of the tribal areas. However, the Government do not feel the need to set up separate institutions to introduce Ayurveda and Unani system of medicines specifically in these areas.

(b) Medical facilities are being provided in rural backward and tribal areas of the country by establishing primary Health Centres, sub-Centres etc. Efforts are being made to establish a Primary Health Centre and a Sub-Centre to cover a population of 20,000 and 3000 respectively in tribal/hilly areas instead of 30,000 and 5000 respectively in the non-tribal/non-hilly areas.

Chemical Testing Laboratories Lacking Sophisticated Equipment

*34. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chemical testing laboratories attached to medical stores and depots of Governmeant are not sphisticated enough and well equipped;